

News from the Glen

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May/June 2003

The bimonthly newsletter of the Waterfall Glen Chapter of the Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc.

<http://www.hep.anl.gov/ega/waterfallglen.html>



WFG Chapter President:	Karen Bonse
WFG Chapter Vice President:	Doreen Brandenburg
WFG Chapter Treasurer:	Jane Stevens
WFG Secretary:	Loretta Phillips
WFG Community Outreach:	Margaret Venables

A Letter From Our President

Hello Everyone!

Summer = Vacation. That's how it's supposed to be right? We grew up having three months of unstructured, carefree, long hot lazy days. Then suddenly we're adults and for many of us, those days are gone! We do our best to recapture some of the summer experience and one of the best ways that I know is through stitching.

We can steal moments in busy day and escape into our stitching world. You are stitching that seascape or the San Francisco skyline you'll visit again. Beautiful flower gardens appear on linen where in my backyard exists a much smaller plot and there are weeds! We commemorate the special events of summer and relive the graduation or a wedding. Immerse yourself into the Ukraine, stitching our group correspondence course. We can even make ourselves feel a little cooler stitching snowmen for Christmas!

We escape our work-life reading a novel – an Earlene Fowler quilting mystery or a murder solved from Monica Ferris's cross-stitch shop. We can time travel and study antique samplers or how the Japanese created our silk threads. Maybe you're just reading the most current magazine and dreaming about those future projects you'll start or the designs you could create.

Some of us actually get to go on a vacation and our stitching goes with us! What fun it is to put together a traveling project or to create the time to finish one of those UFOs. Thirteen of us took a day and visited the Mill Hill headquarters in Janesville, WI. Carol Todd, Joyce Kinnally and Cathy Kruk made it to Frankenmuth, MI for the regional seminar. A road trip wouldn't be completed without a cute shop to explore along the way. What about those wonderful trips to England? We hope you are planning to spend at least a day in Arcola for the National Cross-Stitch Show! If you can't make it down there, then plan to spend a few hours at Waterfall Glen's booth during the Downer's Grove Heritage festival. You can stitch and show off your talents in the shadow of a Ferris wheel and just try to resist the cotton candy and corn dogs!

However you spend your summer, I'm glad you've made our meetings and our Saturday Sit and Stitch a vital part. Our Show-n-Tells will take the place of those essays we all used to write as we headed back to school – "How I spent my Summer".

Let's stitch together,
Karen Bonse

The Appreciation Patch Project

Whether you are for or against the war, as Americans we should show our support to the troops that are fighting for our country. Those men and women put their lives on the line to ensure our safety. Let us show these fine soldiers how much we support and appreciate them!

Stitchers across America are asked to stitch an appreciation patch which will then be distributed to our troops. The patches will be distributed through the Salvation Army.

Please visit

<http://www.patternsonline.com/Features/Patch/Patch.aspx>

to read more about the patch project and to download the free cross-stitch pattern.

NCCSS News

Have you been working on getting your entry ready for Rockome? Carol and Karen will be driving to Arcola on May 23rd so check with them to reserve a space for your stitched entry. If you choose to let Carol and Karen take your entry, please make a note of it on your registration form so the NCCSS is aware you will not be delivering your piece yourself.

EGA Website Review

by: Karen M. Campbell

This month, we're going to make the rounds of some shops that advertise in EGA chapter newsletters, for the benefit of the other chapters who might not be as familiar with them.

www.houseofstitches.com is a full-service, brick-and-mortar needlework shop. The website includes several years of shop newsletters in PDF format for download. On the day I visited, there were 7668 items in the on-line catalogue. Never fear, there's a very good search function built in! You can search by keyword or by manufacturer (with a pull-down menu for convenience). They do seem to carry a

wide range of fibers.

<http://www.stitchersxpress.com> is another brick-and-mortar expanded to on-line. Again, they seem to have a good range of fibers and fabrics. I was intrigued by their variety of pre-finished items. (Which is actually a link to www.yarntree.com, which manufactures the items.) The fabric links also took me to manufacturer webpages, which means the information is the most accurate it can be, but getting back to the shop's site to order it can be a little klutzy. If you have the ability, you might want to open two windows in your browser, keep the shop's site running in one while you surf the links in the other.

<http://www.smilingssheepneedlepoint.com/> was updated the day I visited. It's a good sign when a shop updates regularly. There were half-a-dozen name designers listed on the front page, as clickable links. Browsing each collection was fast and easy. Go to the index page to see everything. There is a lovely camellia needlepoint kit, which I will expect to see on the sharing table at Camellia Chapter this summer!

www.thefuzzypenguin.com is my local shop, which has recently gone on-line. Poke into What's New and the Newsletter links for the very latest in available stash and accessories. There's a good range of fibers and fabrics available. Ordering is via e-mail, rather than shopping cart, which is much faster than clicking a few dozen individual DMC numbers. Fuzzy gives an EGA discount, so be sure to ask for it!

www.elegantstitch.com went the opposite way, evolving from a website to a brick-and-mortar store. If you like samplers, this is the place for you. If you like sparkly stuff or Aida, you may not be as impressed by the selection.

Fabric is cut to order (so if you only need a 5x5 piece for an ornament,

you're not stuck with a fat quarter), and arrives with the edges serged. Every item in your order will be wrapped in tissue paper, which makes for a most elegant package (and a lot of fun unwrapping).

I hope you enjoy poking into our stitching sisters' local shops!

Karen M. Campbell is a freelance writer/editor and paralegal in Sacramento, California. She writes this column for the Camellia Chapter newsletter, and shares it with other chapters for their newsletters. All URLs were functional on the day the column was written.

EGA Website Review (x 2!)

by: Karen M. Campbell

One thing I always enjoyed as a child was going to museums. I grew up in an area rich in Revolutionary War history, and many of the homes of that era had been refurbished. The highlight of my day was seeing the varied needlework done by the family's womenfolk. Quite often, they had embellished useful things, like pillows and bedcurtains. Sometimes, if there weren't many visitors, the tour guide would let us examine the needlework closely, or even bring other things out of storage for us to look at. If your vacation takes you to a historical home, keep your eyes open for the ways our foremothers used needlework.

Meanwhile, let me take you to www.pilgrimhall.org, the website of the Pilgrim Hall Museum in Plymouth, Massachusetts, repository of many of the artifacts of the first settlers. There was a specific school of needlework developed in that area, and photos of the samplers are available on the website, with commentary. Poking around the entire website could prove quite educational on subjects other than needlework.

As I write this, the Smithsonian Institution (www.smithsonian.org) is having a juried craft show and auction (www.smithsoniancraftshow.org). Our

readers will be interested in looking at the categories of Decorative Fiber and Wearable Art. Click on the small photos to get larger photos. Unfortunately, I couldn't find any written descriptions of technique.

www.textilemuseum.org has more history and detail about the pieces displayed on their website. One of particular interest is a mola panel, made in the traditional way, depicting a very non-traditional subject: an astronaut with a U.S. flag.

Other museums, estates and plantations also have photos of parts of their collection on-line. It's worth doing a websearch for the era or method you're most interested in. And don't forget to share the best of them with the rest of us! You can e-mail your favorite sites to me at KMC528@aol.com.

Karen M. Campbell is a freelance writer/editor and paralegal in Sacramento, California. She writes this column for the Camellia Chapter newsletter, and shares it with us. If you have comments about this column, or suggestions for a future one, e-mail her at KMC528@aol.com.

WFG Chapter News

We had a very interesting program in April. Several people brought in some hints and tips to share with our members, but most brought books to show. In case you missed our meeting, to follow is a list of books that were recommended as invaluable stitching aids or just plain, 'ole enjoyable reads. Listed in no particular order:

The Box by Judy Odell – this book gives step-by-step finishing instructions for round, square and rectangular boxes. Pictures, too.

A Note Book of Pulled Thread Stitches by Eileen Bennett @ 1999. The book title says it all.

The Techniques of Japanese Embroidery by Shiyi Tamura @ 1998.

Sampler Motifs and Symbolism By Patricia Andrie and Lesley Rudnicki @ 2003.

Laid Fillings for Evenweave Fabrics By Jean Taggart @ 1995

A Delusion of Satan, A Full Story of the Salem Witch Trials @ 1995 If you like this kind of thing, this book is chock full of history. Lots of reproduction samplers today are from this era.

Danish Pulled Thread Embroidery By Esther Fangel, Ida Winckler & Agnete Wuldem Madsen @ 1977.

Mary Thomas's Dictionary of Embroidery Stitches New Edition by Jan Eaton @ 1998.

Linen Stitches By Ginnie Thompson @ 1987.

A Note Book of Sampler Stitches By Eileen Bennett @ 1990.

A Note Book of Sampler Stitches Book Two By Eileen Bennett @ 1993.

The Complete Illustrated Stitch Encyclopedia from Crafters Choice @ 2001.

WFG AFGHANS

Work is progressing on the Sekas Monthly Hearts afghan which will be used for an Opportunity Drawing for our Exhibit in October. To date it looks like 8 squares have been completed. The Prairie Schooler afghan is quickly taking shape, too. About 10 squares have been stitched and it is almost finished!

GREAT LAKES REGION NEWS

EGA 17th NATIONAL EXHIBIT, "Through the Needle's Eye":

May 7 – Aug 3, 2003
Historic Society of Saginaw County
Castle Museum
Saginaw, Michigan

Aug 26 – Sep 28, 2003
Fine Arts Center Galleries
Bowling Green State University
Bowling Green, Ohio

OHIO STATE DAY

The date has been set for Saturday, July 19, 2003 at St. Raphael's Bookstore and Conference Center, 4365 Fulton Drive, Canton, Ohio. State Day will be hosted by The Hidden River Chapter of Ohio, in Massillon. The theme will be Scottish Samplers with a lecture and a stumpwork thistle will be taught.

INDIANA STATE DAY

"An Old Fashioned Garden" will be held at the Miami County Fairgrounds in Peru, Indiana, on Saturday, September 20, 2003. Learn a new finishing technique as you work on the baffled needle roll project. You can see a picture of the project at www.picturetrail.com/mary-jo You will be required to pre-stitch the motif and edge stitching to be able to finish the piece in class. The registration deadline is May 31, 2003. The kits will be mailed the second week of June. If interested, send a registration form and check for \$35 to Sharon M. Henderson, Registrar, 2003 State Day, PO Box 66, Medaryville, IN 47957-0066 or email for more information, hendson@home.iffni.com See the Regional Rep for a registration form (Cathy Kruk).

MICHIGAN STATE DAY

Monguagon Chapter is hosting this event which will be held September 20, 2003 at the St. John's Golf & Conference Center in Plymouth, MI. Six regional and national level teachers will be guiding you through canvas, stumpwork, surface, silk ribbon, beads or pulled thread. The full day from 9am – 3:30pm includes class/luncheon/shopping and is \$55. A half day with no class is \$30. Please see Regional Rep, Cathy Kruk, for color pictures of the project that are offered.

NEEDLE MAGIC!

Get ready for the 2004 GLR Seminar hosted by Fox Valley Chapter to be held in Appleton, WI at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel. Opening banquet is Sunday, April 18. Monday/Thursday 4-day class is available or 2-day classes on Monday/Tuesday and Wednesday/Thursday. Closing banquet is Thursday, April 22. If you've never attended a regional seminar, you are really missing out! Be sure to check out the class offerings with your Regional Rep, Cathy Kruk. Registration begins November 15, 2003. For more information, email Karen Wojahn at kwojahn768@aol.com.

CHAPTER BUCKS:

The winner of chapter bucks for the March meeting was Cathy Kruk. The winner in April was Sandra Malone. For a chance to win a chapter buck, just bring in your completed chapter program for show-and-tell!

2003 BOARD MEETINGS:

Next board meeting.....May 27, 7pm at the Patio Restaurant in Bridgeview.

UKRAINIAN OPENWORK GCC:

The projects will be turned in this month for a June 1st evaluation date! Big drum roll please.....Make sure you pay attention during show and tell in May. I'm sure you'll see lots of gorgeous Ukrainian pieces! Congratulations to everyone that participated in this GCC. We had lots of fun at our special get togethers. A big thank you to Margaret for opening your home to us on many occasions! Watch this space next newsletter to find out how the evaluations turned out!

Programs 2003

Wow, Kathy Christie has some great Programs planned for us! Check out the offerings for the next few months:

May 20

Florentine Needlecase by Sue Kerndt
Cost: approximately \$15

June 10

Prep class to August program – Learn how to paint a canvas! (Libby Sturdy's Snowflake Santa)
Cost: approximately \$3

July 8

Creative Couching by Sara Lee J. Allen
Cost: price of bag tag

August 12

Snowflake Santa by Libby Sturdy
Cost: price of your threads

To find out details of the Programs, take a look at Kathy's Program book which is available at every Chapter meeting.

2003 Officers

President:

Karen Bonse
708.424.4970

Vice President:

Doreen Brandenburg
708.361.2259

Treasurer:

Jane Stevens
708.485.0946

Secretary:

Loretta Phillips
630.739.2210

Committees

Community Outreach:

Margaret Venables
630.963.7650

Directory:

Judy Dabrowski
630.499.5765

Alaine Todd

630.428.0232

Education:

Carol Schaal
708.636.1165

Exhibit 2003

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630.795.1093

Gate Security:

Susan Strasser
630.443.6640

Historian:

Rita Broyles
708.532.2401

Hospitality:

Pam Styka
630.986.1970

Membership:

Melissa Gregory
630.325.2807

Newsletter & Regional Rep:

Cathy Kruk
708.728.1916

Programs 2003

Kathy Christie
630.985.6873

Programs 2004

Kathy Christie

Web Site:

Eve Kovacs
630.985.1419

Index of Advertisers

COTTAGE STITCHERY

618 W. State St.
Geneva, IL 60134

HOURS

Mon-Wed.: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Th.: 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
Fri.: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sat.: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

COUNTRY CUPBOARD

14314 Beacon
Orland Park, IL 60462
ph. (708) 460-7779

HOURS

Mon., Thur.: 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
Tue., Wed., Fri.: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sat.: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

THE DESIGNERS DESK

104 S. Bloomingdale Road
Bloomingdale, IL 60108
ph. (630) 893-3999

HOURS

Mon.-Sat.: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sun.: 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

THE GREAT FRAME UP

9552 Southwest Highway
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
ph. (708) 422-5517

HOURS

Mon.-Fri.: 10 a.m.-9 p.m.
Sat.: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sun.: 12 p.m.-5 p.m.
email: crlstrm@aol.com
website: www.thegreatframeup.com

STITCH BY STITCH

Porte de Leau Plaza
2032 45th Street
Highland, IN 46322
ph. (219) 924-2667
fax (219) 924-4573
email: stitchbystitch@prodigy.net
Web: www.stitchbystitchinc.com

HOURS

Mon.-Sat.: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Tue.: 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

HOUSE OF STITCHES

1700 Lincolnway Place
Suite 4
LaPorte, IN 46350
ph. (219) 326-0544
HOURS
Mon.-Fri.: 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Sat.: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
e-mail: mail@houseofstitches.com

STITCHERS' EXPRESS

621 Lake Land Boulevard
Mattoon, IL 61938
ph. (217) 234-7024

HOURS

Mon.-Fri.: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sat.: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
e-mail: sashrake@mcleodusa.net
Web: www.stitchersxpress.com

TOMORROW'S HEIRLOOMS

650 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
ph. (630) 790-1660

HOURS

Mon.: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.
Tues.-Fri.: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sat.: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

VILLAGE NEEDLEWORKS

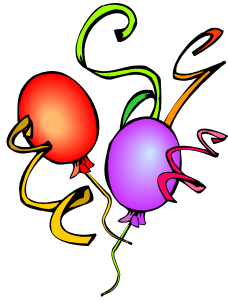
Oak Court of Westmont
510A East Ogden Avenue
Westmont, IL 60559
ph. (630) 321-1400
fax (630) 321-1404

HOURS

Mon., Tu., Wed., Fri.: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Thu.: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sat.: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

WELCOME STITCHERY

48 Brink Street
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
ph. (815) 455-5470
HOURS
Mon., Tue., Wed., Fri.: 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
Thur.: 9:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Sat.: 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
email: welcomst@mc.net
Web: www.welcomestitchery.com



Birthdays!

May

18-May Irene Ginger
24-May Diane Tarkowski

June

1-Jun Pat Prange
11-Jun Kathy Christie
13-Jun Judy Dabrowski
23-Jun Susan Strasser
30-Jun Ann Endres

MILL HILL TRIP

By: Karen Bonse

Cottage Stitchery, one of our advertisers, held their 5th Annual bus trip to the Mill Hill Button Factory in Janesville, WI. May 7th. Fourteen Waterfall Glen members (old and new) joined for the tour, a luncheon and a class taught by Mary Jones, chief designer at Mill Hill.

I joined Laretta Bombe, Doreen Brandenburg, Evelyn Brown, Irene Ginger, Mary Ellen Hennebry, Loretta Phillips, Pam Robinson, Jean Sloboda, Clara Spiller, Jane Stevens, Sue Strasser, Pam Styka, and Kathy Mical (old member) and thirty one others early for our bus ride up to the Gay Bowles Distribution Center.

Gay Bowles actually exists. She is the president of the company and led our tour. Gay, with her husband Jerry and their dog Meghan met us at the door. There were refreshments while Gay spoke, telling us how Mill Hill came into being and how they were manufactured. They also distribute other lines of needlework supplies, magazines, fabrics, and Kreinik fibers for example. They do not sell to the public, only to shops and primarily the independents as opposed to the larger chains.

I was under the impression that they actually manufactured the beads there and was a little disappointed to find out that they are really made in Japan. They are weighed, measured, repackaged and distributed from this site. The Mill Hill Treasures come from Germany. If you could see the work that goes into making those – all hand made, one at a time, you'd understand the pricing!



Vice Pres Doreen Brandenburg hanging out with the beads!

We broke into three small groups as we toured the facilities to see how their warehouse and distribution center works, how the kits are assembled, how frames and perforated paper are hand-painted and then came the buttons.

We watched the button's step-by-step process of design, shaping and baking the clay, the hand painting and how they put those little holes in so neatly. Very labor intensive and all done by hand. We also visited the design studio and met the women who design the whole Mill Hill line. We had a sneak preview of the new Fall line, what is coming out for next Christmas and what's in the works for the future – hint: a whole jewelry line!

Soon it was time to adjourn to a nearby Holiday Inn for a salad luncheon. Mary Jones, the chief designer joined us and opened the floor to further discussion of the design process. She spoke of how a pattern progresses from idea and inspiration, to the color selections (beads, fibers, buttons, fabrics, paper), the design from drawing to computer, the packaging and all the steps until you see the product on the shelves. One of her assistants came along. She is responsible for taking all the designs and writing the instructions. (a whole art in itself!) We received a special kit with 18 different bead colors, 18 DMC colors, 2 Kreinik Metallic ribbons, a Colorwash silk and Mill Hill buttons and Treasures. While we started stitching, Mary gave us ideas on how to finish our project and urged creativity. Hopefully you'll see mine with everyone else's in a future Show-n-Tell.



The Mill Hill kit we all received.

Sharon Spates, the owner of Cottage Stitchery kept her shop open late for shopping. We were all inspired to try some of the Mill Hill projects we saw and were able to order those we previewed. We had a great time not only seeing Mill Hill but meeting the other attendees – a fun day.

EXHIBITION – The Art Institute of Chicago – On or Off the Wall: An International Selection of Tapestries and Carpets, 1920s–1970s May 14, 2003 – February 8, 2004, Galleries 54-56

Overview: *On or Off the Wall: An International Selection of Tapestries and Carpets, 1920s-1970s* features a choice selection of 21 carpets and wallhangings from the Art Institute's collection that could have been used to cover either floor or wall. International in scope, the works on view were designed by such artists as Pablo Picasso, Jean Lurcat, Edward McKnight Kauffer, Marion Dorn, Jean Arp and Victor Vasarely and manufactured by the Wilton Royal Carpet Company, Tabard Freres et Soeurs and Maison Mybor, among others. These artist-design carpets and tapestries were produced in limited editions, some designs woven two to four times only.

